

Unapproved
Morton County Water Resource District
May 28, 2025

1. The Morton County Water Resource District met in regular session at 10am on Wednesday, May 28, 2025 at the Missouri West Water offices at 2816 37t St. NW, Mandan, ND.

2.The following persons were present: Chairman Wade Bachmeier, Managers: James Wetsch, Bruce Engelhardt, Jim Schmidt, Todd Norton, Brenda Winckler, Sec-Treas., Ayden Himmelspach, Karin Garvie, MWWS, Bryan Ziegler, Bartlett and West, Tom Bair from Bair Law Firm, Tim Nilsen and Cody Schnabel, MC Parks & Weed Board Director, and Natalie Pearce, P&Z.

3. Chairman Bachmeier called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes: Mgr. Engelhardt moved to approve the April 30, 2025 minutes. Mgr. Wetsch seconded the motion. MCU.

4. MWWS: Mgr. Garvie reported on the following: The final part of water line for Honey Hills will be completed next week. Pumps need to be replaced in the pump boosters, 2 pumps at estimated cost of \$30,000, to be completed this fall. No master meter update, no answer from the City of Mandan. Ft. Lincoln, no updates, need an MOU, and haven't heard back. Had a request for water for south of Mandan, Karin referred to SHIPO due to cultural issues. The ground has been disturbed before but it may have cultural issues in the undisturbed area. Recommends the home owner hire someone to do the test. Karin is waiting for word from Bair Law Firm. Need an opinion from the Board regarding our current contractor and cost of projects. A couple of customers claim they are too high, but Mgr. Garvie can't find any contractors to get estimates from to compare. Bryan Ziegler suggested checking with other water districts and asking what they pay for the same project. There needs to be reseeding done at Lyons Road project. Bryan will go take pictures and make a punch list for Carstensen Construction to do reclaiming or reseeding. Pre-commission meeting for State water for rural water bucket, dollars this annum is going out fast, 70 million, 41 million already on the list. Building assessment discussion: First draft, \$1.9 million to renovate, build new \$2.3 million without site prep or interior equipment. Estimated value for current building is \$1.2 million. June meeting, Katie Vasbinder, Bartlett & West, Engineer will be present to answer questions. The Board reviewed the income, totaling \$229,969 and expenditures; totaling \$372,317 of the MWWS for the month of April 2025. Mgr. Norton moved to approve the financial reports. Mgr. Schmidt seconded the motion. MCU.

5. MINUTES: Tim Nilsen, \$14,405 for yearly income should be \$ 2,040. Mgr. Engelhardt moved to approve the amended minutes for April 30, 2025, Mgr. Schmidt seconded the motion. MCU.

6. SWA EAE Update: Chairman Bachmeier and Managers Bruce Engelhardt and Jim Schmidt attended the SWA Meeting on May 5, 2025. Chairman Bachmeier, MRJWB Chairperson, spoke about the Missouri River and the Educate, Advocate, and Engage (EAE) program. He stated the purpose of the EAE program is to promote and encourage the education, advocacy, and engagement of water policy entities, water managers, and the general public on the issues involving the management and operations of the Missouri River System in North Dakota. He noted in order to be successful this program is in need of continued participation and financial support. Schmidt, MRJWB Board Member, noted the EAE program is working with the Department of Public Instruction on having voluntary education about the Missouri River at educational institutes in North Dakota. The SWA Board of Directors presented Bachmeier a \$10,000 check in support of the MRJWB EAE program.

7. Morton County Parks: Tim Nilsen reported still letting 1 inch of water out of the drawdown. Discussion on opening it another inch or 2 further to take water off the bottom instead of letting it run over the spillway. Mgr. Wetsch and Engelhardt will take care of it. Dock had to be raised due to the rain event. Honey Hills complaint about water, vast part of the east water, came from the west side of the road, due to the ditch block. Very little water came from the north flowing south. Trail work was being done before the rain. Tim reported some kayakers asked him about taking a beaver dam out which would give them an extra 1/2 mile to kayak. Consensus is to let them do it. Revenue for May at HL was \$3102, YTD \$5142. Cody reported that the HL maintenance man, Rick had complaints about boats going too fast. He can report that to either sheriff or G&F. SunFlo meters: Wetsch had a call from Wayne about purchasing cameras for on the flo meters which were not included on the contract but required by NDIRF. Wetsch has found some 360 degree game cameras, but not sure what they need the cameras to do. Will contact NDIRF. They are not in the water yet. Suppose to install between June 14-16th.

8. Lawyer replacement: Tom Bair will be retiring soon and the Board needs to hire a new lawyer for the Water Board. Would like to hire within Morton County, but if there are none with water knowledge, then what's the next step. Chairman Bachmeier will contact a local lawyer to see if they would be interested in being our lawyer with a few concerns the Board has.

9. Auditor questions: Victoria Sand asked if there is a conflict of interest policy statement for MWWS & MCWRD. Also, if there is any plans of retirement within the office. Chairman Bachmeier questioned why we get audited every year verses other Boards, and it is due to being 2 entities to audit, MWWS and MCWRD.

10. HL Inundation Zone: P&Z wants a resolution for this zone. Natalie's thought is if you buy residential rights, then you can do a special assessment to each of the residential owners. We could leave it in a moratorium forever. The Board recognizes a zoning change as a potential solution.

11. Financial Reports: CD Mgr. Schmidt Moved to approve and pay the following vouchers. Mgr Wetsch. 2nd MCU. 2 CDs are coming due end of May at Dakota Community Bank. Consensus of the Board is to combine the 2 CDs at the current rate at Dakota Community Bank for a 6 month period.

CK#	Name:	Amount:	Memo:
1648-1653	VOIDED		
1654	Wade M. Bachmeier	\$455.99	Meetings, mileage
1655	Bruce Engelhardt	\$400.17	Meetings, mileage
1656	Todd Norton	\$208.60	Meetings, mileage
1657	James E Schmidt	\$196.16	Meetings, mileage
1658	James R Wetsch	\$521.96	Meetings, mileage, Drop Box renewal
1659	Brenda Winckler	\$1262.90	Salary
EFT	IRS	\$554.48	Payroll taxes
1660	Workforce Safety	\$250.00	Employee Insurance
1661	HUB Insurance	\$8558.00	Insurance

There being no further business, motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

Wade M. Bachmeier, Chairman

Brenda Winckler, Sec-Treas.